Documents filed under Amnesty Scheme

1565. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of fees and additional fees collected by the Department of Company Affairs under the Amnesty Scheme;

(b) whether the documents filed under the Scheme have been taken on record/regularised;

(c) if not, how many such documents are still pending to be taken on record; and

(d) the reasons for the pendency?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) An amount of Rs. 136.83 crores has been collected by the Department of Company Affairs under the Company Law Settlement Scheme, 2000 (Amnesty Scheme). .

(b) to (d) The total number of documents filed by companies under the scheme was 7.88 lakhs and of these 4.74 lakhs documents were pending for registration/recording as on 31.12.2000. About three-fourth of the aforesaid documents pending for registration/recording as on 31.12.2000 have since been registered/recorded.

Defective documents are not taken on record and companies are addressed to rectify the same.

Remedial platform for arbitration

1566. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign and domestic business is being hampered in the country for want of remedial platform for arbitration; and

(b) if so, the corrective steps proposed for time-frame arbitration award for efficacious and time-bound settlement of such cases to encourage more foreign investment?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir. No representation has been received by the Government in this regard.

(b) Does not arise.

Issue of Voter Identity Cards

1567. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Election Commission of India has issued instructions to the States where the elections to State Assemblies are due to be held in 2002 to accelerate the process of issuing Voter Identity Cards by November, 2001;

(b) if so, whether Voter Identity Cards have been issued to all the eligible persons in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and other States going for Assembly polls;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the persons not holding the Voter Identity Cards will be eligible to vote?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir. On 22.8.2000, the Election Commission of India issued a letter to the Chief Electoral Officers of five States and one Union Territory where the general elections to the Legislative Assemblies were due in 2001 and 2002 including the States of Uttar Pradesh and Punjab to concentrate on the programme of Electoral Photo Identity Cards to achieve a coverage of 85% or above. The matter was vigorously pursued from time to time to achieve the objective.

(b) and (c) According to the Election Commission of India, Photo Identity Cards cannot be issued to all the eligible persons at any given point of time. The issue of Photo Identity Cards to electors is not a project but a continuous/ongoing programme and no time frame can be fixed for the completion of the programme. The registration of the electors is a continuous process. Therefore, the